

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The claims in this listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. – 3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) DNA encoding a fluorescent protein described in the following (a) or (b):

(a) a protein having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1; or

(b) a protein in the form of a monomer having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1 except that 1 to 20 amino acids have been mutated by deletion, substitution and/or addition, which protein has fluorescence properties equivalent to the protein having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1.

5. – 6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) DNA described in the following (a) or (b):

(a) DNA having the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2; or

(b) DNA having the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 except that 1 to 60 nucleotides have been mutated by deletion, substitution, and/or addition, and which encodes a protein that in the form of a monomer has fluorescence properties equivalent to the protein encoded by the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2.

8. – 9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) A recombinant vector having the DNA according to claim 4.

11. (Previously Presented) A transformant having the DNA according to claim 4.

12. – 17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) A fluorescent reagent kit, which comprises:

DNA encoding a fluorescent protein described in the following (a) or (b):

(a) a protein having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1; or

(b) a protein in the form of a monomer having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 except that 1 to 20 amino acids have been mutated by deletion, substitution and/or addition, which protein has fluorescence properties equivalent to the protein having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1;

a recombinant vector having DNA encoding a fluorescent protein described in the following (a) or (b):

(a) a protein having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1; or

(b) a protein in the form of a monomer having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 except that 1 to 20 amino acids have been mutated by deletion, substitution and/or addition, which protein has fluorescence properties equivalent to the protein having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1; or

a transformant having the DNA encoding a fluorescent protein described in the following (a) or (b):

(a) a protein having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1; or

(b) a protein in the form of a monomer having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 except that 1 to 20 amino acids have been mutated by deletion, substitution and/or addition, which protein has fluorescence properties equivalent to the protein having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1.

19. – 36. (Canceled)